

Weekly Status & Information Report: Week of October 3-7, 2011

Voter Registration Deadline Approaches (October 10): To vote in the election on November 8, a voter must be a qualified voter of the City of Takoma Park and must have resided within the corporate limits of the City for 30 days immediately preceding the election. The voter registration cut-off date is October 10. Changes of address must also be filed by this date. Voter registration forms or change of address forms for both U.S. citizen voters and non-citizen voters are available from the City Clerk's Office. For complete voter registration information and election information, see <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/2011cityelection/> or contact Jessie Carpenter at jessiec@takomagov.org or 301-891-7267. (City Clerk)

Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of October 10, 2011:

- City Council meeting, Monday, October 10, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- Recreation Committee meeting, Tuesday, October 11, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Tree Commission meeting, Tuesday, October 11, 6:30 p.m. in the Lilac Room
- Facade Advisory Board meeting, Tuesday, October 11, 7 p.m. in the Rose Room
- Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, Thursday, October 13, 8:30 a.m. in the Hydrangea Room (City Clerk)

Candidates for Office: The Nominating Caucus was held on Tuesday, October 4. The following candidates received valid nominations and will have their names placed on the ballot for the November 8 City Election unless he or she declines the nomination by 5 p.m. today:

Mayor - Bruce R. Williams
Ward 1 - Seth Grimes
Ward 2 - Lorig Charkoudian, Tim Male
Ward 3 - Kay Daniels-Cohen, Mike Graul, Jeffrey Noel-Nosbaum
Ward 4 - Terry Seamens
Ward 5 - Reuben Snipper
Ward 6 - Barrie Howard, Fred Schultz

Due to technical difficulties, the Nominating Caucus is still not available for viewing online. Staff is continuing to work with the provider to resolve the issue. (City Clerk)

Walk to School Day a Resounding Success: Wednesday, October 5 marked the fifth year Safe Routes to Schools has supported local schools by organizing Walk to School Day events. All five SRTS schools participated this year; Takoma Park Middle School for the first time. An estimated 1500 students, parents and school staff chose to walk to school. Safe Routes provided stickers, pencils and blinky lights for the students. The four elementary schools met at remote locations and walked together to school, holding an assembly when they arrived at school. Mayor Williams and Chief Ricucci addressed the students at Takoma Park ES and Piney Branch ES. Takoma Middle School parents staffed tables on walking routes to greet students with food and give away prizes. Mayor Williams greeted more than 200 middle school students on the way to school! Public Works and Rec supported the effort. Channel 4 News covered the event with a nice piece on the midday and evening news. And the sun cooperated by shining brilliantly. (Housing and Community Development)

October is National Arts and Humanities: October is National Arts and Humanities Month and we are celebrating! Join us in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium for a week of programming. On Thursday, October 13, there is "The Wild Vine: A Forgotten Grape and the Untold Story of American Wine" at 7:30 pm. with author and critic Todd Kliman. On Friday, October 15, join us for "Drop the Knife: A Memoir-in-Song" with former Takoma Parkian and well known performer Jeanne MacKey at 7:30 p.m.. And on Saturday, October 15, kick back and enjoy the music of the U-Liners at 7:30 pm. For more information on these and other events scheduled for this month, check out our Facebook postings at www.facebook.com/#!/TakomaParkMD (Housing and Community Development)

Financial Management Classes: Now is the time to get your financial house in order. Three classes are being offered in this series starting on October 19 - "Getting to Know the Financial YOU"; November 2 - "Changing the Way You Think About \$"; and November 16 - Thinking Like an Investor. All classes are free to Takoma Park residents (non-residents \$25/class). Classes will be held at the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue from 7pm-9:15pm. Pre-registration is required, call 301-891-7222. (Housing and Community Development)

First Time Home Buyer Class: Saturday, October 22: Don't delay, the class is filling up!! Learn what it takes to buy a house or a condominium. Offered by a HUD-approved housing agency, you will receive a certificate of

completion which is needed when you apply to the county or state for their low interest loan programs. Speakers from a real estate firm, lender, title company and inspection firm will be some of the presenters and they will answer all of your questions. Class is free to Takoma Park residents. (non-residents-\$25). The session will be held in the Community Center at 7500 Maple Avenue from 8:30am - 1:30pm. Pre-registration is required by calling 301-891-7222. (*Housing And Community Development*)

Senior Citizens in Takoma Park: Paula Lisowski, of the Takoma Park Recreation Department, attended the first meeting to bring together citizens and community service providers in partnership to address senior issues in Takoma Park. This exploratory group was created, and facilitated by Mr. Wolfgang Mergner to encourage the exchange of ideas, analyze senior needs, and to establish mechanisms by which seniors can find access to senior services. Approximately sixty people attended the first meeting on Thursday, October 6, and based on positive feedback, additional bimonthly meetings are planned for the future. (*Recreation*)

Recreation Department at the Street Festival: Last Sunday the Recreation Department took part in the Takoma Park Street Festival. One recreation staff person along with two volunteers supervised the carnival games and provided information about Recreation programs in the kid's section. Special emphasis was placed on promoting the upcoming 2012 Winter Basketball League. (*Recreation*)

Outdoor Street Hockey: Participants in the outdoor street hockey were able to enjoy the beautiful weather as they participated in three breathtaking games. The third and final game was decided by an unbelievable penalty shot that ended the game. New teams are formed each week. Program will resume on Thursday, October 13. (*Recreation*)

Tennis Clinic: During week three players were given the opportunity to perfect their backhand and forehand strokes while engaging in a volleying competition amongst their peers. This exercise allowed them to keep track of the number of successful volleys to increase concentration. Every week each player is given a specific skill to work on outside of the clinic. (*Recreation*)

Jazzercise continues to Roll: Jazzercise had another successful week at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. Jazzercise is offered on Monday & Wednesday from 7PM-8PM and Saturday from 8AM - 9AM. This is a class that combines the art of Jazz with the science of exercise physiology. Each 60-70 minute class includes easy to follow fun aerobic-dance routines, weights for muscle strength and stretching exercises all to the beat of great music. For more information contact John Webster @ 301-891-7289. (*Recreation*)

FutSal Program Continues to be Popular: FutSal is a form of indoor soccer that is played on a basketball size court with teams of 5 players. This activity has 25 - 40 youth and teen participants each week. It is an activity that demands a high level of discipline, skill and ball control. For more information contact John Webster @ 301-891-7289. (*Recreation*)

Seniors Advisory Meeting: Eight seniors, members for the Silver Foxes Advisory Group, attended the quarterly meeting in the Senior Room of the Takoma Park Community Center on Friday, October 7, 2011. (*Recreation*)

"Go Deep" Flag Football Program: In only its second week of action, the flag football program has really taken flight. With over 30 participants, games have been non stop fun. This week, each player was challenged to learn from each others individual talents, as sportsmanship was the theme of the day. Program will resume on Wednesday, October 12. (*Recreation*)

Comics Jam: The Library's monthly Comics Jam program, which had to be postponed last week, will take place this coming Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 4 p.m. All are welcome as we read comics together on the big screen. The program will conclude with comics guru Dave Burbank taking "drawing requests" from the audience. No registration required. (*Library*)

College Bound: Dr. Lori Potts Dupre will conclude the Library's College Bound series on Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. with an overview of the college selection process. Potts Dupre is a certified educational planner who has had a private college counseling practice in Takoma Park since 1997. She has evaluated more than 350 campuses nationwide. The program is free, but please register by going to www.takomapark.info/library or calling us at 301-891-7259. (*Library*)

French Circle Time: Madame Marie will lead the Library's French Circle Time on Saturday, Oct. 15 at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome at this program of French songs and rhymes, perfect for little ones - and their grown-ups! -- who want to learn a little French. Registration encouraged so we can inform you of any date changes; to register, please go to www.takomapark.info/library or call us at 301-891-7259. (*Library*)

Read Out: Nearly 50 people attended the Library's second annual Community Read Out on Saturday, Oct. 2 in celebration of Banned Books Week. Our dozen readers included Maryland Sen. Jamie Raskin, who read from "The Phantom Tollbooth"

by Norton Juster. We concluded with a pizza party, sponsored by the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library. (Library)

Friends Booksale: Mark your calendars! The Friends of the Library's Booksale will take place on Saturday, Oct. 22 on the Library Lawn. This is a great place to get good quality books – including many brand-new children's books – at great prices. We also are still accepting books for the sale; we're looking for new or gently-used books in good condition. No textbooks or magazines, please. (Library)

Police Department Meetings:

October 5 - The Takoma Park Police Department participated in the Safe Routes Walk to School program. Chief Ricucci spoke to the students at Takoma Park Elementary School and Piney Branch Elementary School.

October 6 - Takoma Park Police began their Citizen's Academy for City residents. We have 20 residents signed up and attending this 10-week Academy on how the Takoma Park Police Department operates. This is a new program for the police department.

Police Training:

On 10-3 through 10-7, D/Cpl. Wolff and D/Pfc. Butler attended Basic Investigator's Training at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland.

On 10-4 and 10-6, various sworn personnel attended Defensive Tactics Training at the Takoma Academy.

Crime Report:

The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (September 30 – October 6, 2011) may be viewed online at: <http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/10/takoma-park-police-department-weekly.html>.

Traffic Enforcement:

Officers conducted at least 104 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, one Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrest from traffic and one Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrest from traffic.

During September 29 – October 5, 2011, the following details were completed:

September 29, 2011

1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) – conducted a 90-minute detail and issued six State citations for speed and three other State citations.

September 30, 2011

6900 block to 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue (equipment violations) – conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations, five Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) and three warnings.

October 3, 2011

1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) – conducted a two-hour detail and issued seven State citations for speed and three other State citations.

October 5, 2011

7400 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) – conducted a 60-minute detail and issued six State citations for speed and two other State citations.

Park Avenue & Spruce Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citations and one warning.

Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):

Week of 10/7/11

Calls for service: 5

State Citations issued: 66

City tickets: 5

Reports: 8

Safety Equipment Repair Orders: 4

Warnings: 1

Training: 4 hours

Warrant arrests: 2

Court: 7.5 hours